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APPLICATION NO.	FII	LING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/776,845	10/776,845 02/11/2004		Ronald R. Woller	8\$08.1-190	3025
23506	7590	07/11/2005		EXAMINER	
GARDNEF 2018 POWE			THOMPSON, HUGH B		
SUITE 800	MO I DICK			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ATLANTA, GA 30339				3634	
				DATE MAILED: 07/11/2005	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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	Application No.	Applicant(s)					
Office Action Symmony	10/776,845	WOLLER ET AL.					
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit					
TI MANUAL DATE AND	Hugh B. Thompson II	3634					
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	ears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address					
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w.  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	obsides. In no event, however, may a reply be time within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cause the application to become ABANDONE.	ely filed s will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. O (35 U.S.C. § 133).					
Status							
<ol> <li>Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>27 June 2005</u>.</li> <li>This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.</li> <li>Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i>, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.</li> </ol>							
Disposition of Claims							
<ul> <li>4)  Claim(s) 1-17,19 and 20 is/are pending in the application.</li> <li>4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.</li> <li>5)  Claim(s) is/are allowed.</li> <li>6)  Claim(s) 1-17,19 and 20 is/are rejected.</li> <li>7)  Claim(s) is/are objected to.</li> <li>8)  Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.</li> </ul>							
Application Papers							
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.							
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119							
<ul> <li>12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).</li> <li>a) All b) Some * c) None of:</li> <li>1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.</li> <li>2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No</li> <li>3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</li> <li>* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.</li> </ul>							
Attachment(s)							
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date	4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal P 6) Other: 4 sheets of d	ite atent Application (PTO-152)					

#### DETAILED ACTION

#### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 4, 5, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

With respect to claims 4 and 12, it is unclear as to how the claims further limit the "rigid" recitations of claims 1 and 8, respectively. What is the difference between "rigid" and "substantially rigid"? It would appear that the phrase "substantially rigid" is something less than rigid.

#### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-17, 19, and 20, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Woller #5,971,104. Woller, as recited in column 7, lines 26-47, discloses a pair of foot engaging members/straps (stirrups) 96, secured to support members 74 of platform 26 by means of fasteners, the straps having a curved configuration depending toward the platform 26, the straps also being made of stiff/*rigid* materials causing them to stand up and fabricated from synthetic polymers, i.e., a wide array of plastics.

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#### Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed in the Amendment of 6-27-05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicants' attention is drawn to the attached definitions of stiff, rigid, and synthetic polymers. Woller, as recited in column 7, lines 41-47, clearly states that the stirrups/straps 96 are made of synthetic polymers, not limited to, i.e., nylon, having a certain "stiffness that causes the strap to stand up..." Webster's 10<sup>th</sup> edition, among other definitions, defines the term "stiff" as synonymous with the term "rigid". The term "rigid", among other definitions, is defined as "appearing stiff..." Further, synthetic polymers, as defined by "Wikipedia", an on-line encyclopedia, are plastics that include, amongst other types, molded plastics such as PVC. As such, the addition of the term "rigid" to the independent claims, fails to further distinguish the instant invention from Woller-104. The applicants' clearly attempt to define the foot-engaging member of the instant invention over Woller-104 by reciting a material property versus a structural limitation such as "a curved member pivotally attached to a support member that receives and secures a foot of a user thereof in a locked or use position." Absent additional claim language drawn to the structure of the stirrup relative to the platform, the Woller-104 reference "reads-on" the claim language as amended.

#### Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

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the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hugh B. Thompson II whose telephone number is (571) 272-6837. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 9 am to 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Chilcot can be reached on (571) 272-6777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hugh B. Thompson II Primary Examiner Art Unit 3634

July 6, 2005

# Synthetic polymer

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Synthetic polymers are often referred to as "plastics", such as the well-known polyethylene and nylon. However, most of them can be classified in at least three main categories: thermoplastics, thermosets and elastomers.

Man-made polymers are used in a bewildering array of applications: food packaging, films, fibers, tubing, pipes, etc. The personal care industry also uses polymers to aid in texture of products, binding, and moisture retention (e.g. in hair gel and conditioners).

## **Examples**

A non-exhaustive list of these ubiquitous materials includes:

- acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS)
- polyamide (PA)
- polybutadiene
- poly(butylene terephthalate) (PBT)
- polycarbonate (PC)
- poly(ether sulphone) (PES, PES/PEES)
- poly(ether ether ketone)s (PEEK, PES/PEEK)
- polyethylene (PE)
- poly(ethylene glycol) (PEG)
- poly(ethylene terephthalate) (PET)
- polyimide
- polypropylene (PP)
- polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE)
- polystyrene (PS)
- styrene acrylonitrile (SAN)
- poly(trimethylene terephthalate) (PTT)
- polyurethane (PU)
- polyvinylchloride (PVC)
- polyvinylidenedifluoride (PVDF)
- poly(vinyl pyrrolidone) (PVP)

### Brand names

These polymers are often better known through their brand names, for instance:

- Kevlar
- Kynar, e.g. PVDF
- Mylar, e.g. polyethylene terephthalate
- Nylon, e.g. polyamide 6,6
- Rilsan, e.g. polyamide 11 & 12
- Teflon, e.g. PTFE
- Ultem, e.g. polyimide
- Vectran
- Viton
- Zylon

Retrieved from "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Synthetic\_polymer"

Categories: Polymers

- This page was last modified 6 May 2005 09:33.
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right wing n (1905) 1. the rightist division of a group or party 2 kion 8 — right-wing \rit-win, win\ adj — right-wing er \rit-

Williams and adjust-

right of just claim: LEGAL (~authority) 3: PROPER FITTING (assured of his? place in history—Brian Duff)—right-ful-less n right-ful-ness n right-hands \footnote{\text{Tit}-hand\footnote{\text{Adv}} \footnote{\text{Tit}-hand\footnote{\text{Tit}-han

ight wing n (1905) 1: the rightist division of a group of partial triple wing n (1905) 1: the right-wing win) add right-wing er ('rit-wing-gr', rit', n', right-wing left wing-gr', rith-n', right wing-gr', rith-n', right wing-gr', rith-n', right wing-gr', right wing-gr', rith-n', rith-n',

ing the outer shape maintained by a fixed framework rigidaly adviringly controlled by a fixed framework rigidaly adviringly fixed bears in RIGID. RIGOROUS, STRICT, STRINGENT mean extremely severe or stem. RIGID implies uncompromising inflexibility (rigid rules of constant. RIGID implies uncompromising inflexibility. (rigid rules of constant rigidal) implies the imposition of hardship and difficulty (the rigorous training of recruits). STRICT emphasizes undeviating, conformity, to rules, standards, or requirements (strict enforcement of the law). STRINGENT suggests severe, tight, restriction or initiation (stringly results) and strandards of admission). Sym see in addition STIPS and the strandards of admission). Sym see in addition STIPS and the rigidal registration of initiation (stringly results) and rigidal registration of initiation (stringly results). The rigidal registration of initiation of the rigidal registration of initiation of the rigidal results of the rigidal registration of the rig

instance of strictness, severity of crulety 12 ha fremor caused by a chill 3; a condition that makes life difficult, challenging, or uncomfortable; asp; extremity of cold 4; strict precision EXACTNESS (logical >> 5; a obs; Riofibit, strict precision EXACTNESS (logical >> 5; a obs; Riofibit, strict precision EXACTNESS (logical >> 5; a obs; Riofibit, strict precision EXACTNESS (logical >> 5; a obs; Riofibit, strictly precision EXACTNESS (logical >> 5; a obs; Riofibit, strictly precision EXACTNESS (logical >> 6; a obs; rigor-ism \frac{1}{150} - 1; a obs; rigor-ism \f

ness of ideath] (ca. 1847): temporary rigidity of muscles occurring after death rigid-ross\ adj (15c) 1: manifesting, exercising, or favoring rigor over strict 2: a': marked by extremes of temperature or rigid rousely adv—rigid rousely accurate: precise is presented by the rigid rousely adv—rigid rousely advantaged in the rigid rousely advantaged rigid rousely advantaged rousely ad

irill \fril\n [D iril\or \LG rille; akin to OE rith rivulet] (1538); sa.very small brook grident state in the small brook grident state in the small state in the small stream, fr. LG, rill [1688]; sany of several long narrow valleys on the moon's surface (1788); any of several long narrow valleys on the moon's surface (1788); any of several long narrow valleys on the rill-ett \fri-let\n (1538); a little fill, and the small stream fri letter \text{\text{ri-lets}}, \text{\text{\text{ycl}}} \text{\text{\text{ord}}} \text{\text{\text{ord}}} \text{\text{\text{colored}}} \text{\text{\text{ord}}} \text{\text{\text{colored}}} \text{\text{\text{ord}}} \text{\text{\text{colored}}} \text{\text{\text{ord}}} \text{\text{\text{colored}}} \text{\

RULE] (1889): cooked shredded meat (as pork or duck) or fish preserved in fat trim \( \text{rim} \) \( \text

cloud and built out careery age.

(a ~ of snow)

\*rime w rimed; rim-ing (ca. 1755): to cover with or as if with rime

\*rime; rime-ster var of RHYME RHYMESTER

rim-fire, 'rim-fir', adj (1868) of a carridge: having the priming dis
tributed in the rim of the shell, rimfire n

rim-land \frac{1}{2} rim-fire, and \frac{1}{2} rim-fire n

rim-land \frac{1}{2} rim-fire n

land rimmed \rimm\ adj (1729) having a rim—usu; used in combination (dark-immed glasses) (red-rimmed eyes) rim-rock \rimm-rik\ n (1860) 1! a lop stratum or overlying strata of resistant rock of a plateau that outcrops to form a vertical face 2; the edge or face of a rimmock outcrop rimy \rimme\ adj rimm-leer; est [OE hrimis fr. hrim] (bef. 12c) covered with rime; fr. fr. of [ME, fr. OE, akin to OHG rinda bark, and prob. to OE rendan to rend] (bef. 12c) 1; the bark of a tree 2! a usu hard or tough outer layer; prest (Rust (grated lemon —)—rind-ed \rimdadd adj

) abut , ' kitten, P table \or' further \a\ash \a\ ace \a\ mop, mar 



ect in a game in symbolizing an ch a baton 3: a lding) 4 a: any 801 origin, or use: as origin, or use: as ting the elevators tile b: STICKFUL rolling) in a relational candy) (a ~ of r spiritless person ackward, dull, or alk resembling a alk resembling a 10: a piece of m release from a er of parachutists

13 a: punishing cooperaBrit: CRITICISM. 2 : to provide a

E stician; akin to E stician; akin to stize in to tattool STAB b: to kill serce 3 a: to : to put or set in s fastened on by g to adhere to a t stuck with the t or action of b with somethine t stuck with the t or action of b with something at lousy car? thesion: a: to become fast by the mud) to hold fast or keep close in a unable to proto irritate, nag ifairly — stick a risk — stick e of opposition

recome closely eing glued to-n interchange ner (antibodies ner of parts so ixture cohere). tendrils (cling tachment (the

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nerà *Lap* fruit

tick weed \stik-wed\ n (1743): any of several plants (as a beggar's

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from becoming stiff). RIGID applies to something so stiff that it cannot be bent without breaking (a rigid surfboard). INFLEXIBLE stresses lack of suppleness or plability (ski boots with inflexible soles).

stiff adv (13c) 1: in a stiff manner: STIFFLY 2: to an extreme degree inseverely (scared ~) (bored ~)

stiff n (a. 1859) 1: correst 2 a: TRAMP, BUM bi: HAND, LABORER c: FERSON (a lucky ~) 3: FLOP, FAILURE

stiff w (1950) 1 a: to refuse to pay or tip (~ed the doctor for the fee) (~ed the waiter). b: CHEAT (~ed him in a business deal) c: STICK 7a (~ed us with the bar bill) 2: SNUB 3: (~ed sportswriters after the game)

stiff-arm \stif-arm\vb or n (1909): STRAIGHT-ARM:

stiff-arm \stif-arm\vb or n (1909): straight-arm\vstif-arm\stif-inj\vb or stiffer. vi: to become stiff or stiffer. stiffener\stif-arm\stif-inp\vb or stiffer. vi: to become stiff or stiffer.

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rgrains and on which they germinate — see FLOWER illustration — stigmal \sigmals \text{ig-mal} \ adj

stigmas ter-ol \stig-\text{mas-te-rol} \ .n [NL Physostigma (genus including the Calabar bean) + ISV sterol (1907): a crystalline sterol Cyll-qo obtained esp from the oils of Calabar beans and soybeans stigmat-ic \stig-\text{ma-tik} \ .n (1594): one marked with stigmata stigmatic \ adj (1607) \ .1: having or conveying a social stigma \ 2: of \text{of relating to supernatural stigmata} \ 3: \text{ANASTIGMATIC} \text{— used esp. of a bundle of light rays intersecting at a single point — stig-mat-i-cal-ly \ \text{-\text{id-light}} \ \text{of light} \ \tex

a bundle of light rays intersecting at a single point — stig-mat-i-cal-ity a bundle of light rays intersecting at a single point — stig-mat-i-cal-ity litig-ma-tist \stig-ma-tist, stig-ma-\text{in} n \ (1607): \stig-ma-\text{in} (1585) \ 1 \ a.\ archaic \text{stig-ma-tize} \ \text{viig-ma-tize} \ vi. \ \text{-tized}; \ \text{-tizeling} \ (1585) \ 1 \ a.\ archaic \text{stig-ma-tize} \ \text{viig-ma-tize} \ \ \text{viig-ma-tize} \ \ \text{viig-ma-tize} \ \text{viig-ma-tize} \ \text{viig-ma-tize} \ \text{viig-ma-tize} \ \text{viig-ma-tize} \ \ \text{viig-m

\*stile n [prob. fr. D stijl post] (1678); one of the vertical members in a frame or panel into which the secondary members are fitted sti-let-to \sti-le-\notation pl-tos or toes [II; dim. of stillo stylus, dagger, fr. L stillus stylus — more at style] (1611) 1; a slender dagger with a blade thick in proportion to its breadth 2; a pointed instrument for piercing holes for eyelets or embroidery. 3: stiller of HEEL stille theel n (1953); a high thin heel on women's shoes that is narrower than a spike heel. \*\*This is not one of the stille stille in the stille stille fr. OE, akin to OHG still still and perh to OE steall stall — more at stall [bef. 12c], 1: a; devoid of or abstaining from motion b archade: \*\*SEDENTARY, c: not effervescent (~ wine) d (1); of, relating to, or being a static photograph; sa contrasted with a motion picture (2); designed for taking still photographs (a ~ camera), (3); engaged in taking still photographs (a ~ camera), (3); engaged in taking still photographs (a ~ camera) (3); engaged

: ALLAY, CALM b: to put an end to: SETTLE 2: to arrest, the motion of 3: SILENCE

still adv (bef. 12c) 1: without motion (sit ~) 2 archaic a: ALWAYS, CONTINUALLY b: in a progressive manner: INCREASINGLY, 3—
used as, a function word to indicate the continuance of an action or condition (~ lives there) (drink it while it's ~ hot) 4: in spite of that : NEVERTHELESS (those who take the greatest care ~ make mistakes) 5

a: EVEN 2C.(a ~ more difficult problem) b: YET-1a.

still n (13c) 1: QUIET, SILENCE 2: a static photograph; specif: a photograph of actors or scenes of a motion picture for publicity or documentary purposes

photograph of actors of scenes of a monompleting pushesty of documentary purposes

setill vb [ME stillen, short for distillen to distill] (13c): DISTILL

setill n (1533). 1: DISTILLERY, 2; apparatus used in distillation comprising either the chamber in which the vaporization is carried out or the entire equipment

still alarm n (1875): a fire alarm transmitted (as by telephone call)

without sounding the signal apparatus
still and all adv (1829): NEVERTHELESS STILL
still.birth, 'stil, borth, 'borth, 'n (1783): the birth of a dead fetus
still-born \, 'born\ adj (1593) 1: dead at birth '2: failing from the
start: ABORTIVE (a ~ venture) — still-born \, born\ n
still-burt\, 'bort\ n
v (1858): to ambush or stalk a quarry; esp: to
pursue game noiselessly usu without a dog ~ w: to lie in wait for

still-hunt \ hont\ vi (1858): to ambush or stalk a quarry; esp: to pursue game noiselessly usus without a dog vi: to lie in wait for approach by stealth that it is the process of the pro

Still-ton. /still-thn\ n [Silllon, Huntingdonshire, England] (1826): is blue-veined cheese with wrinkled find made of whole cows' milk enriched with cream stime \stim. n [ME (northern dial.)]. (14c) chiefly Scot & Irish: OLIM-MER; also: OLIM-SE stim-u-lant \stim. n [ME (northern dial.)]. (14c) chiefly Scot & Irish: OLIM-MER; also: OLIM-SE stim-u-lant \stim. n [ME (northern dial.)]. (14c) chiefly Scot & Irish: OLIM-MER; also: OLIM-SE stim-u-lant \stim. n [ME (northern dial.)]. (15c) an agent (as a drug) that produces a temporary increase of, the functional activity or efficiency of an organism or any of its parts 2: STIMULUS 3: an alcoholic beverage — not used technically:—stimulant adj. stim. and the continual stim. stim. stim. stole \stim. stim. stim. stole \stim. stole \stim. stim. stole \stim. stim. stole \stim. stim. stole \stim. stim. stim. stim. stole \stim. stim. stim.

\3\ abbit \9\ kitten, F table \3r\ further \a\ ash \a\ acc. \8\ mop. mar. \au\ out, \chi\ chin. \e\ bet. \6\ easy \gr \gr \hi\ hit. \II\ fee \ii\ job 



